

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 24, 2020

The Honorable Steve T. Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Charles P. Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20224

The Honorable Robert Wilkie
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

The Honorable Andrew Saul
Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21235

Dear Secretary Mnuchin, Secretary Wilkie, Commissioner Rettig, and Commissioner Saul:

Thank you for the briefing we received Wednesday evening from Internal Revenue Service staff regarding Economic Impact Payments, authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, to our constituents in the U.S. insular areas. We understand it is necessary that our respective local governments coordinate with the IRS in distributions of these payments to taxpayers; and we encourage you to expedite this process, which now lags IRS distributions to U.S. taxpayers.

We were strongly disappointed to learn in this briefing that recipients of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, and non-taxable VA benefits residing in the insular areas might not be receiving Economic Impact Payments automatically and by direct deposit as are these recipients in other geographic areas of our nation. This distinction is not consistent with Secretary Mnuchin's announcements of April 1, April 15, and April 17, respectively, that beneficiaries of these three programs could receive payment with no action required on their part—announcements upon which we and our constituents have relied.

We urge you to reconsider delaying payments to Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries and to veterans receiving non-taxable benefits, who live in the districts we represent. Congress intended the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus Act to provide financial assistance to allay the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to all in need promptly and regardless of where they live.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN
Member of Congress



STACEY E. PLASKETT
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Ming F.Q. San Nicolas". The signature is stylized and cursive.

MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS
Member of Congress